

January 1, 2006

KENT COUNTY COURTHOUSE CELLULAR PHONE POLICY

All cellular telephones or personal communication devices (e.g. Blackberries, Sidekicks, pagers, PDA's, etc.) shall not be permitted in the Kent County Courthouse, unless you are exempt from this policy as listed in the guidelines that follow.

The following shall be exempt from the cellular phone policy with certain restrictions.

1. Court employees of the Kent County Courthouse.
2. State employees entering on official business with proper identification.
3. Capitol Security Officers, Department of Corrections, Attorneys, bondsmen, police officers or other persons who have regular business at the Kent County Courthouse may retain their cellular phones, **but** may only use those telephones in ***designated areas***. These areas include; the Prothonotary's office, the Court of Chancery's office, the Court of Common Pleas Criminal and Civil offices, the Judicial Assistants' office, Probation and Parole Intake office, and the sheriff's office. At no time should cellular phones be used in the hallways in the presence of the public. Bondsmen and "Court Runner's" will be required to wear identification badges while in the Kent County Courthouse.

In case of emergencies, (bomb threats), upon being notified by a member of the Judicial Assistants office or by Capitol Police, ***EVERYONE*** must cease using their cellular telephones or other like electronics in the Kent County Courthouse, even if you qualify for the exemption, until said emergency has been cleared.

Any individual found in possession of a cellular phone or any other prohibited device in the courthouse may have their property seized and forfeited as ordered by the Superior Court. This includes any individual that is deemed exempt but uses their device in an unauthorized area.

William L. Witham Jr.

Resident Judge

Superior Court
of
Kent County